

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action dated April 23, 2007 has determined that **Claims 5-19 and 34 are allowed**. The Action **rejects the remaining claims, including Claims 1-4, 22-26, 28, 29, and 32-33** on various grounds. According to the guidance of the Examiner, all claims but allowed **Claims 5-19 and 34 are cancelled**. Accordingly, the need to address the various grounds for rejection is moot.

Claims 5-19 and 34 remain pending in this application. Based on the following Amendments to the claims, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for her kind indication of allowance as to **Claims 5-19 and 34** and the Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are currently allowable and accordingly request that this application be allowed.

Conclusion:

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed invention as presently presented is patentable over the art of record and that this case is now in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, the Applicants request withdrawal of all pending rejections and request reconsideration of the pending application and prompt passage to issuance. As an aside, the Applicants clarify that any lack of response to any of the issues raised by the Examiner is not an admission by the Applicants as to the accuracy of the Examiner's assertions with respect to such issues. Accordingly, Applicants specifically reserve the right to respond to such issues at a later time during the prosecution of the present application, should such a need arise.

As always, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the Applicants' representative to discuss any matters pertaining to this case. Should the Examiner wish to contact the undersigned for any reason, the telephone number set out below can be used.

Additionally, if any fees are due in connection with the filing of this Amendment, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0388 (Order No. NSC1P287).

Respectfully submitted,

BEYER WEAVER LLP

/Francis T. Kalinski/
Francis T. Kalinski II
Registration No. 44,177

P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612-0250
Telephone: (831) 642-9609
Alt. Tel.: (408) 255-8001